BENGALURU, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2023 www.Bangaloremirror.com 12 Pages PRICE ₹3

Bangalore Mirror

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How street pedestrianisation positively impacts quality of life in terms of health, safety, comfort, mobility and security

FOOTWORK

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Researchers from the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), through their analysis of Bengaluru's Church Street, have highlighted the positive impacts of pedestrianisation of urban streets. Considering environmental benefits, health benefits, social benefits, and transportation-related benefits, they concluded pedestrianisation of Church Street has significantly improved the quality of life of people using the street.

Feeling safe due to the absence of vehicles, easy access to services such as shopping and dining, adequate space for social benefits such as entertainment, street aesthetics, green spaces, security and connectivity alongside access to public transport are some positive aspects of pedestrianisation of Church Street, the researchers highlighted.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 »

> "For instance, pedestrianisation of Church Street led to high metro ridership
> — Ashish Verma, convenor, Sustainable Transportation Lab, IISc

Volt age

City has 16,791 shock-risk areas

CITY PAGE 5

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2 THINGS TO DO

01 Healthy affair

Join the celebration of the International Year of Millets, which is scheduled to happen for three days. The millet and organic fair will be inaugurated by Sri Sri Ravi Shankar, Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar, Minister for Agriculture Cheluvarayaswamy, and former minister and Yesvantpur MLA ST Somasekhar. The fair also invites farmers to encourage them to adopt organic farming, and experts will speak on organic farming. Entry is free to the public.
Where: Art of Living Centre, Kanakapura Road
When: From December 9

02 Dance on tune

Aatmalaya Academy of Art and Culture Bangalore in collaboration with the ICCR, Ministry of External Affairs, Zonal Office, Dpt of Youth Empowerment Sports, Govt of Karnataka, presents Nivedanam. The event features Gururaju performing compositions from Kuchipudi traditions. There will be other dancers too, performing in their respective artforms.
Where: Yavanika, Nrupatunga Road
When: December 9; 6 pm

Healthcare tech

Aasra Hospitals has announced the appointment of Ramani Iyer (former co-founder of Just Dial) to its board of directors. Dr Jagadish Hiremath, Chairman of Aasra Hospitals, said, "Iyer's pivotal role in augmenting technology-driven precision care. Embracing this collaboration, Iyer looks forward to leveraging his experience to drive Aasra Hospitals' growth and spearhead innovation in healthcare services. This strategic union marks a significant leap in revolutionising healthcare through technology at Aasra Hospitals. Iyer brings unparalleled expertise in technology and strategic leadership, poised to acquire a significant minority stake, underscoring his commitment to advancing healthcare innovation in India." -BMB

Art is in our nature

The echoes of music, art, and sustainability resonated loud and clear at the Echoes of Earth 2023 music festival, held on December 2 and 3. This year, the festival witnessed an incredible turnout of 23,000 people over the weekend, not only from Bengaluru but also from various corners of the country, coming together to celebrate the harmony of music and sustainability.

One of the highlights of the event was the positive response to eco-conscious initiatives, particularly the stunning art installations and stages crafted entirely from recycled materials sourced from junkyards. Festival-goers were captivated by the creativity and resourcefulness displayed, proving that art can thrive even in the most unexpected places.

The musical extravaganza featured stellar performances by renowned artists such as Len Faki from Germany, three-time Grammy Award winner Tinariwen from Mali, Jitvam (US/India), Mezerg (France), Parra for Cuva (Germany), Mansur Brown (UK), 8 Kays (Ukraine), Sid Sriram (US), and Giant Swan (UK), among others. The diverse lineup showcased a fusion of global talent, offering an unforgettable experience for all music enthusiasts.

This year, the story of Echoes of Earth continues with its chapter in Goa on February 2–3, 2024.
— BMB

Women in drivers' seat

150+ women trained to drive autos in initiative by city-based entrepreneur

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So far, over 150 women have been trained, and over 50 women have already started driving with the help of Peace Auto

A very unique and noble initiative, Peace Auto, started by a citizen of Bengaluru, Raghu Narayan Gowda, 39, has trained over 150 women drivers in the city for free. The initiative is to bring in more women drivers and more power for women to come forward and drive in the city, making it safer for women.

Peace Auto union has over 5,000 male auto drivers registered under them and was started over one and a half years ago as an initiative to help auto drivers with their insurance and licensing. After a few months, Raghu decided to have the women train free of cost. The drivers registered with them were willing to send their wives for training, and female security guards have also come forward for training. So far, over 150 women have been trained, and over 50 women have already started driving.

Raghu said, "We train women for 15 days for 3 hours, and by then they get perfect with driving. I have my own auto, which I have kept for training women. We have two female drivers, Prabhavathi and Yellama, who have come forward to initiate the training. They had already been driving in the city for many years, and they came forward to initiate the training. We have our social media pages, from which many people are getting to know about the initiative and are coming forward for training. After the training is done, we also help them with their insurance and licence."

> **"We train women for 15 days, and by then they get perfect with driving. I have my own auto, which I have kept for training women**
> – Raghu Narayan Gowda

Prabhavathi, a resident of Bannerghatta and a female auto driver by profession for the past 10 years, has come forward to initiate the auto-driving of trainers. "I faced a lot of financial issues and wanted to do something by myself for my family and children. My husband is an auto driver, and I wanted to support him. My father had taught me how to drive, and I decided to pursue auto driving as my profession. Initially, my husband was sceptical about me taking up the auto profession, as only male drivers do it. But then, as I decided to do it, he was supportive and trained me for one or two hours initially."

Talking about training at Peace Auto and how Prabhavathi has trained over 150 female auto drivers, she said, "Many other women would be struggling to get a job, and this can be a way out for them. By training 150 women, I feel very happy. I take up training between 12 pm and 4 pm and do my duty at other times. Many women feel comfortable going with female auto drivers." Having more women in the auto-driving profession contributes to the overall diversification of the workforce. It challenges gender biases, promoting inclusivity and equal opportunities for all.

The presence of female auto drivers fosters a sense of support. By offering training, initiatives like Peace Auto contribute to building a network that extends beyond driving, creating a supportive community for women in the profession.

City's caste crime rate spikes

NCRB data reveals 73% surge in crimes; B'luru 4th in country in rapes of SC women

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There has been a troubling surge in crimes against Scheduled Castes (SCs), marking a disconcerting 73 percent increase, as compared to the previous numbers, National Crime Records Bureau data has revealed.

According to the latest data, Bengaluru recorded 231 crimes against SCs in 2022, which is a significant increase as compared to 2020, when the city reported 133 cases.

When this number is compared to its other metropolitan neighbours, Bengaluru is still leading in crime against SCs. Even if one combines the crime recorded in Chennai (25), Hyderabad (113), Kochi (22), still the number of cases in Bengaluru remains higher by 44 percent.

This alarming rise encompasses a range of offences, including instances of bullying related to reservations and even more heinous acts like rape and enraging the modesty of a Dalit woman.

Bengaluru ranks fourth in India when it comes to rape of a SC woman in 2022, as the city recorded horrifying 24 rapes including that of children.

Among the 219 cases recorded under SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities Act) in Bengaluru, eight are recorded for murder, 36 for hurt, one for acid attack, 27 for assault on SC woman (adult and children), 18 cases of assault on adult woman with intent to outrage her modesty.

The data shows that three cases are recorded for sexual harassment of a SC woman, and four cases for assault with intent to disrobe.

Such incidents reveal a concerning failure of the existing legal and law enforcement mechanisms to curb these crimes effectively.

In a recent case, a woman being a member of the Dalit community, received casteist abuse on X from a person who had allegedly been sending similar casteist slurs to many other people as well.

She had initially posted about this issue to the Bengaluru police X handle, and despite them assuring her via a public tweet that they would help her, they had done nothing, claimed the source.

Alarming rise encompasses a range of offences, including instances of bullying related to reservations and even more heinous acts like rape

"The person used a particular word to insult me and my community and I complained to the police on social media. However, no action was taken against the person. Later, I went to the police station and after explaining the issue to the officers, they denied to take the FIR citing that because the victim was using an anonymous ID, this cannot be considered under the SC/ST Act as a crime," she said.

The person later went to the police station and took help from a social worker and her FIR was finally registered in the Bellandur Police Station.

The incident goes on to show that even police lack sensitivity in cases related to caste based crime and there is an urgent need to address it.

When complaint panel looks away

A woman, previously working at an advertising agency, who had approached the local complaint committee (LCC) to seek redress over an alleged sexual harassment case at her workplace is now approaching court over the matter as the accused has been deemed innocent by the LCC.

BM had previously reported on the matter, when the woman had revealed the LCC has not been of much help. According to the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 (PoSH), any employer with more than 10 employees must form an internal complaint committee (ICC) that any woman employee can approach to file a formal sexual harassment complaint. The Act also mandates LCCs at every district for firms that employ fewer than 10 people or in the unorganised sector.

Lekha Adavi, an advocate, clarified that the burden of proof does not lie on the complainant. "Law understands the nature of sexual harassment, how it takes place behind closed doors. In that sense, the complainant cannot be burdened with evidence. If said so, it must be taken at face value. The Act says that even if the complainant is unable to provide any proof, circumstantial evidence must be taken into consideration," she said, adding that while there are flaws in the Act, such as exclusion of gender minorities, it provides structure for women in the formal sector to seek redress.

"Most often than not, even when cases are reported to the ICCs and the management is notified, the perpetrator resigns. The law is subverted and justice is not sought," she explained. When asked if the lack of scrutiny over implementation was the root cause, Adavi said the lack of will to attain gender justice was the problem. —Rachana Ramesh

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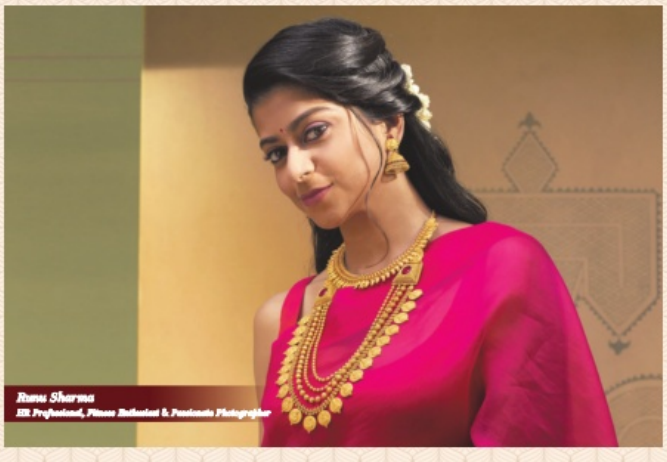

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Has BDA lost the plot on KG Layout story?

BDA fails to provide basic amenities at one of its well-known layouts, misses 4 deadlines and now stands accused of having provided wrong info in Assembly

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The Bangalore Development Authority (BDA), which is supposed to be a role model for private land developers and builders, has failed to provide basic amenities at one of its prestigious layouts. It is alleged that the BDA has failed to meet four deadlines fixed by the Real Estate Regulatory Authority, Karnataka, and also the deadline of the Legislative Committee on Appeals.

The BDA's latest failure is providing wrong information to a question by Rajajinagar MLA S Suresh Kumar during the ongoing Assembly session in Belagavi. Those who bought sites at Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout and are waiting for the BDA to provide basic amenities to enable them to begin construction of their dream homes have blamed the BDA for providing wrong information to the State Assembly. They said that they are not sure which Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout works they are talking about are completed. They said some of the site owners who have commenced construction are finding it difficult in the absence of basic amenities.

As per answer 'E' provided to Assembly, UGD, water supply, electrification, SWD, and road formation work across the layout, but those constructing buildings claim that UGD has no connectivity because of land disputes. The BDA claimed that it could not ensure UGD connectivity as some farmers filed petitions in court disputing the acquisition of their land.

"The engineering team points to pending land acquisition issues blocking area formation and establishing infrastructure continuity, which is agreed, but the engineering team failed to complete works on 2,692 acres where sites were allocated in 2016. Most of the developmental works are pending in many areas due to pending third-party audit revalidation, payments to the contractors, and many other unknown reasons," said Surya Kiran, spokesperson of the Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout Open Forum.

The BDA built four huge ground-level storage reservoirs, 10 overhead tanks, and the construction of one electrical substation is in progress, but ironically none of these are helping a single site owner

> **"The engineering team points to pending land acquisition issues blocking area formation**
> –Surya Kiran, NK Layout Open Forum

He added that the BDA built four huge ground-level storage reservoirs, 10 overhead tanks, and 10 sewage treatment plants, and the construction of one electrical substation is in progress, but ironically, none of these are helping a single site owner who started construction.

It is said the BDA gave instructions to the site owners to construct soak pits in the sites or on the road as the existing UGD network is unusable. "I began the construction a few months ago on the 6th Block of the layout. There is no electricity or water. The BDA engineer advised me to dig a soak pit as the UGD is not ready," said Bhaskar Naidu, a site allottee. Expressing a similar opinion, Varun, a site owner, said that he began construction work three months ago and expected to complete it in a few months. "Around six people have begun the construction of buildings. As of now, there is no water supply, UGD, or electricity. I hope the BDA will provide a UGD facility by the time I complete the construction of my house," he said.

Core issue: Why pedestrianising city is key

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Outdoor seating arrangements in restaurants, improvement in air quality, ease of walking from parking spaces to the street are some benefits that were associated with quality of life.

"Our analysis indicated that satisfaction with health, safety, comfort, and security due to pedestrianisation positively affects quality of life. Any intervention or development planned in a city should have a clear perspective of development goals. The best development goal for any city should be to improve the quality of life of its citizens or improve overall livability. To do this, a clear and holistic understanding of the quality of life is important so that intervention can be measured through this lens," said professor Ashish Verma convenor, Sustainable Transportation Lab, Indian Institute of Science (IISc) and co-author of the study.

Need of safer footpaths

Using the Church Street model, experts noted that in addition to facilitating leisure walking, dining, and shopping activities, pedestrianisation has attracted various cultural, recreational, and economic activities resulting in stagnant and moving pedestrians throughout the day. They further suggested that safe, and well-connected footpaths from the parking spaces and transit stations should be established to complement pedestrianisation. Researchers underlined a few implications for decision makers to improve the planning, execution, and assessment of pedestrian-only street strategy.

"A narrow way of looking at the intervention to pedestrianise a street can be to restrict the movement of vehicles or divert them, reducing the capacity of the transport system. Decision makers must look at such a holistic framework to understand any development intervention from a broader perspective. For instance, pedestrianisation of Church Street also led to high metro ridership. This implies that such a model can boost ridership of the public transport system apart from reducing emissions in the city," added Dr Verma.

Strategy on Church Street

The pedestrianisation scheme was initiated as a pilot study on Church Street as part of the Clean Air Street initiative, Innovative for Clean Air (IfCA) program. The strategy was implemented during weekends for four months - November 2020 to February 2021. The street was redesigned under Tender S.U.R.E and revived for public use in 2018. Granite cobblestone pavement, designated parking bays for two-wheelers and four-wheelers, segregated dustbins at multiple locations, and pedestrian-friendly footpaths made the street suitable for walkers.

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Hills of dirt

Shivajinagar

After the replacement of the BWSSB water pipeline, the contractor has not yet cleared the debris on 4th Cross, Meenakshi Koil Street, Shivaji Nagar. Walking and parking have become difficult.

Taken footpath

Sahakar Nagar

A vendor is happily occupying the footpath on Kodigehalli Main Road in Sahakar Nagar while authorities look away. This is right next to Chethan Diagnostics.

Wire threat

Rajajinagar

Live wires are lying open after the Navrang Theatre at the corner signal. The authorities concerned need to pay attention to this danger.

Drone camera trial is proving to be damp squib

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Just months after conducting trials with drone cameras, the traffic police is reconsidering their effectiveness. As part of a new trial, the traffic police now intends instead to place cameras at high-rise buildings.

The traffic police had in June announced its plans to use drone cameras as a means to address traffic congestion in the city. Drone cameras flying over important junctions would identify key congestion spots and vehicle breakdowns and provide immediate relief. However, the pilot has proven to be ineffective due to the lower flight endurance of the drone, say traffic officials.

Key congestion spots like Hebbal, Central Silk Board, Ibballur, Marathahalli, KR Puram, Guruguntapalya, Sarakki and Banashankari bus stand were chosen for the drone surveillance. For this purpose, the police had purchased three drone cameras that were being used in these areas. However, despite its failure, traffic police are also planning to get five more drone cameras. These new cameras will also come with additional battery upgrades allowing for higher endurance.

Central Silk Board was one of the spots chosen for the drone trial

"We are finding the drone camera surveillance trials to be cumbersome. Currently, they are limited to 40 minutes of flight endurance. We are using them and are planning to purchase five more drone cameras but they seem to be ineffective. The new drone cameras will also come with battery upgrades allowing flight endurance of four hours," said a senior traffic official.

This move had come against the background of Karnataka Home Minister G Parameshwara asking the Bengaluru Traffic Police to come up with a plan to address traffic woes in the city within three months.

Instead, now the police are looking at a new pilot.

"Based on our learnings from drone pilots, we are thinking about establishing cameras on high-rise buildings. We have chosen 12 spots for this exercise. These AI-enabled cameras operating 24X7 will be primarily used for addressing traffic congestion. These cameras will track traffic volume counts on roads and will be placed on important junctions," he added.

The traffic police are also in the process of issuing an AI-driven tool to address traffic issues that utilises camera feeds and data from third-party apps to assess traffic volume.

Volt from the blue: City has 16,791 shock-risk areas

South of city has maximum with 10,277 areas that are potential electrocution hazards

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The shocking incident of a mother and her baby losing their lives due to electrocution seems to be just a tip of the iceberg as the city has thousands of potential 'shocking points'. A survey by Bangalore Electricity Supply Company Ltd (BESCOM) found 16,791 spots where things could go wrong, and around 6,400 of them need to be fixed on an urgent basis.

The BESCOM survey showed that in some areas, like new neighborhoods and slums, things are worse. There are issues with maintenance at places where power comes from, like poles and transformers. Wires are hanging loose, and there are boxes that kids can reach up to. According to the survey, the south part of the city has the most dangerous spots, with over 10,277, followed by the west with 4,572, east 1,490, and the north had 452.

BESCOM officials are also stressing on the need for BBMP to be more vigilant. "Even though BESCOM manages electricity poles, BBMP is in charge of street lights. BESCOM has suggested that BBMP enhance security measures to address potential electricity hazards. This situation underscores the importance of coordinated efforts between BESCOM and BBMP to ensure overall safety," said a BESCOM official.

Adding to the concerns, there's a constant threat posed by high tension lines near residential areas. Within BESCOM's jurisdiction, there are 9,057 km of 11 KV high tension lines and 8,937 km of low tension lines. A significant number of these lines are quite old, and many of them pass through densely populated urban neighborhoods.

Earlier, KPTCL and BBMP were planning to remove houses that have been constructed beneath the high tension power lines as there have been electrocution deaths as well. Earlier, this year, a 24-year old who came in touch with 220 KW live wires passing over his house had more than 90% burns and died later at the hospital. There are many houses in the city that are directly under the high tension power lines. Last year, a 11-year old boy was electrocuted when he tried to drag a kite near his house and in the past two boys aged 13 and 11 years were electrocuted when they touched a high tension power line to catch pigeons.

Officials had identified 7,722 'illegal' houses constructed under high tension lines

> **Even though BESCOM manages electricity poles, BBMP is in charge of street lights. BESCOM has suggested to the BBMP that it enhance security measures**
>
> –BESCOM official

Houses in line of fire

Earlier, officials had identified 7,722 'illegal' houses constructed under high tension lines in Bengaluru City and rural limits. Another official said that there have been many examples where multi-storied buildings have been constructed next to high tension lines. The residents who stay on the top floors are in danger as they are quite close to these power lines. Even in 2019, BBMP and KPTCL had disconnected power supply to 104 properties under construction that were under high tension lines. However, the drive didn't last long.

A senior BBMP official said, "There are regulations for construction of houses near KPTCL lines. It is a violation of KPTCL Act and such residents face the risk of criminal cases as well. We are not providing permission for construction of such houses and the plots should be left vacant if there are power lines above. Such constructions are deemed illegal. We are asking such residents to demolish their house and if s/he fails to do so, then we will take action."

According to KPTCL guidelines, the residents should get both vertical as well as horizontal clearances if their building is closer to extra high voltage lines. However, a BBMP official said, "Many citizens fall prey to cheating by a few realtors who try to sell the plots under high tension power lines. In fact, most of these illegal houses have been built in revenue layouts where the residents are ignorant of the rules. The residents say that they bought plots as they were sold for a lesser price. Now, the residents who have stayed in those houses for more than 10 to 15 years face the risk of eviction for ignorance of the rules."

Man sets self on fire, family cries murder

A man is said to have killed himself after the girl he was in love with turned down his marriage proposal. Rakesh, a resident of Kallubalu village in Anekal, has been identified as the deceased. Rakesh allegedly set himself on fire after arguing with the girl at her house near Kengeri on Wednesday afternoon.

Rakesh was severely burned after he poured petrol on himself and set himself on fire. He was rushed to Victoria Hospital, but he died on Wednesday night.

Rakesh's family members have filed a complaint with the Kengeri Police Station against the girl and her family members. Rakesh and the girl had been in a relationship for seven years, according to the FIR. Rakesh's family has also alleged that this was not a suicide. They claim that when Rakesh went to the girl's residence to talk to her, her family allegedly beat him and threatened him. **-BMB**

Botched burglary and burnt notes

Currency notes worth Rs 7 lakh were burnt to ashes when a couple of criminals attempted to bust open an ATM with a gas cutter on Wednesday night in Nelamangala, on the outskirts of Bengaluru, police said.

Two masked individuals tried to open the ATM with a gas cutter at a private building. After reviewing the CCTV footage, the bank employees called the building owner and told him of the robbery attempt.

After the building owners rushed to the scene, the burglars fled, leaving the gas cutter equipment behind. The bank officials went to the location and inspected the ATM, which had been partially cut with a gas cutter.

The ATM was stocked with Rs 500 and Rs 100 bills. When bank employees opened the ATM, smoke was billowing from the burning bills.

The Nelamangala Town Police Station are probing the case. **-BMB**

Experts seek unbiased probe after mammoth loss

Committee probing Arjuna's death should have members from outside govt depts, say activists, who also seek better protection of camp elephants

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After the state government ordered a probe into the elephant-capturing operation that led to the untimely death of Dasara fame elephant Arjuna, wildlife conservationists, and activists have demanded the constitution of an unbiased committee to look into the incident.

They say the current expert committee created to inquire about the happenings around Arjuna's death has only members from the Karnataka Forest Department or other government agencies.

"The committee probing the incident should have representatives of the public, scientists, NGOs, and neutral veterinarians apart from KFD officials and policymakers. The current committee will not be able to conduct an unbiased probe," said Joseph Hoover, former State Board for Wildlife member and founder of the United Conservation Movement and Charitable Trust.

Wildlife conservationists also opine that the committee should also look at the death of camp elephants in the past. The outcomes of these investigations can be used to ensure the welfare of camp elephants in Karnataka.

"Karnataka Forest Department has gifted 57 elephants to other states since 2016. Moreover, as many as 106 elephants have been captured since 2013 in Karnataka. Out of these, 37 were translocated, 66 were sent to elephant camps and 3 died during capture operations. Out of the 66 elephants that were sent to camps, 15 have died. Six e;ephants died within one year of captivity, 7 passed away within two years of captivity and 2 died within three years of captivity. All these incidents must be investigated by the committee and the unbiased report should be handed over to the environment minister of the state," added Hoover.

File photo of elephant handlers giving Dasara jumbos a royal bath after their training session at the Mysuru Palace premises; most Dasara elephants are chosen from camps across the state

Follow SOP

Experts say while the Elephant Task Force has laid down SOPs for the use of camp elephants, many guidelines are not being followed by the department.

"As per the SOP put in place by the Elephant Task Force, camp elephants should retire at the age of 60 and not be part of any operation, let alone wild elephant capturing operation. Arjuna has repeatedly been roped into such operations apart from being made to carry Dasara Howdah despite being a senior elephant. A committee with unbiased representation should be formed to look into this aspect and ensure that these guidelines are followed in the future," said Ramesh Belagere, wildlife researcher, Foundation of Ecology and Education Development.

> **"As per the SOP by the Elephant Task Force, camp elephants should retire at the age of 60 and not be part of any operation**
>
> –Ramesh Belagere, researcher

"In the case of Arjuna, the retired elephant was not only in musht but also had injuries. He had a very severe crack under his foot. Moreover, no post-mortem was carried out citing Arjuna as a sacred elephant. If that was the case, why did the department deploy a sacred elephant in a high conflict situation, and was Arjuna's tusk removed?" questioned Hoover.

Marshal force money matters under scanner

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The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has formed a committee to look into the financial implications of the marshal force mainly used to ensure solid waste management (SWM). The move has come after former BBMP corporator NR Ramesh raised a complaint with the deputy chief minister DK Shivkumar.

The marshal force has been put under scrutiny as despite being tasked with the responsibility of ensuring segregation of waste, 50% of the collected waste still remains mixed. BBMP allocates close to Rs 25 crore each year to provide salaries for 750 marshals. These workers are also tasked with other responsibilities along with ensuring waste segregation. In the past seven years, the municipal body has spent over Rs 157 crore on marshals. However, blackspots remain a common sight in city. While the BBMP was hoping to make additional revenue by penalising defaulters via marshals, they have had to spend more on keeping the workforce alive. Ramesh has claimed that spending Rs 25 crore every year on the force is not wise as their services is not making a difference within the city.

> **Claim: ₹25 cr a year spent for marshals, but not much change in city's waste woes**

The municipal body, last year, had outsourced the job of blackspot clearance and beautification process to a private agency at Rs 7 crore. In areas that did not fall under the project, sanitation workers and garbage collectors were responsible for garbage maintenance. The committee will be headed by the special commissioner (health) and comprise members from five BBMP departments.

DPR to check feasibility of circular railway

| Sridhar.Vivan
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

In a first step towards introducing the circular railway around Bengaluru, the Union Railways have decided to prepare a detailed project report (DPR). Union Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw in a recent reply in Lok Sabha said, "The Centre has prioritised development of transportation services in Bengaluru city and its surrounding areas. As a part of this initiative, a circular railway has been conceptualised around Bengaluru City."

He said that a sum of Rs 7.19 crore has been sanctioned for preparing the DPR of this project. "Further steps on this project will depend upon the outcome of DPR and support of the State Government." The Final Location Survey of a circular railway connecting the outskirts of Bengaluru city (Nidvanda-Doddaballapur, Doddaballapur-Devanahalli, Devanahalli-Malur, Malur- Heelalige, Heelalige-Hejjala, Hejjala-Solur, and Solur-Nidvanda) was recently been sanctioned by the Railway Board.

The ongoing work on the new Marikuppam-Kuppam railway line spanning 24 km is progressing. The Railway Minister, Vaishnaw, stated that the project encompasses both Karnataka (6 km) and Andhra Pradesh (18 km). Land acquisition for the project is underway, involving 70.14 acres, including 49.70 acres of Bharat Gold Mines Limited (BGML) land in Karnataka and 255.24 acres in Andhra Pradesh. Currently, 70.14 acres in Karnataka and 196.5 acres in Andhra Pradesh have been handed over to Railways by the respective State Governments. The remaining 58.74 acres in Andhra Pradesh are under land acquisition, while works have commenced in the Karnataka portion. The completion of any railway project depends on various factors, including land acquisition speed, forest clearance, utility shifting, statutory clearances, geological and topographical conditions, law and order, and working months in a year due to climatic conditions. Despite these constraints, every effort is being made to expedite project execution.

A sum of Rs 7.19 crore okayed for circular railway around city

"As of April 1, 2023, 31 railway projects (21 new lines and 10 doublings) with a total length of 3,866 km and a cost of Rs. 47,346 crore are in planning, approval, or construction stages in Karnataka. An expenditure of Rs. 15,881 crore has been incurred until March 2023. This includes 21 new line projects totaling 2,583 km at a cost of Rs. 33,218 crore, of which 366 km has been commissioned, with an expenditure of Rs. 6,019 crore. Additionally, 10 doubling projects covering 1,283 km at a cost of Rs. 14,128 crore, with 780 km commissioned and an expenditure of Rs. 9,862 crore," Vaishnaw added.

Meanwhile, the railway minister said that the Centre had requested governments of Karnataka and Maharashtra to provide land and share the cost to take up Bidar-Nanded railway line.

HEALTH TIP: A relaxing atmosphere in the bedroom may help you improve the quality of your sleep

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TECH BACK YOUR TIME

Here's how you can reclaim time you are losing to tech-based tasks

Technology is supposed to make our lives easier. Smart phones provide a palm-size window to the world, enabling us to do almost anything at the touch of a button. Smart homes look after themselves, and virtual meetings mean that for many, time spent commuting is a thing of the past.

So we should have more free time. Time which is now spent sleeping, relaxing or simply doing nothing – right?

If the idea that you have more time than ever before is making you choke on your coffee, you are not alone. There is growing evidence that while digital technology may help us to save some time, we end up using that time to do more and more things.

We recently interviewed 300 people across Europe to understand how they used digital devices in day-to-day life. This research showed that people want to avoid empty periods of time in their lives, so they fill those periods performing tasks, some of which wouldn't be possible without technology.

Whether it was waiting for a bus, waking in the morning, or lying in bed at night, our participants reported that time which would previously be "empty" was now filled with brain training apps, creating lists of things they should do or try based on their social media feed, and other life admin.

It seems that quiet moments of people watching, imagining and daydreaming are now filled with tech-based tasks.

The growth in digital tasks is happening, in part, because technology appears to be changing our perception of what free time is for. For many people, it is no longer enough to simply eat dinner, watch TV or maybe do an exercise class.

Instead, in an attempt to avoid wasting time, these activities are performed while also browsing the web in search of the ingredients for a more perfect life and trying to develop a sense of achievement.

On the face of it some of these tasks may seem like examples of tech saving us time. In theory, online banking should mean I have more time because I no longer need to go to the bank in my lunch break. However, our research suggests that this is not the case. Technology is contributing to a denser form of life.

> **Rise in digital tasks is happening, in part, because technology seems to be changing our perception of what free time is for**

Social media may at times inspire, motivate or relax people. But our research suggests people often feel a sense of guilt, shame and regret after filling their free time with online activities. This is because they perceive online activities to be less authentic and worthwhile than real-world activities.

It seems that people still see going for a walk or actually being with friends as more valuable than being online. Maybe if we put down the phone a little more, we would have the time to actually cook those recipes we watch online.

Why is technology creating work?

Changing working patterns are also thought to be intensifying work. Home and hybrid working, enabled by video conference technology, have blurred the boundaries between work time and personal time. Now that the office is in the spare room, it is all too easy to think: "I'll just pop into the study and finish up after putting the kids to bed."

Digital technologies are speeding up the pace of life. Take email and online meetings. Before they existed we had to wait for responses to voicemails and letters, or travel to places to speak to one another. Instead, we now have back-to-back online meetings, sometimes without enough time in between to even nip to the toilet.

And email creates exponential growth in communications, which means more work to read and respond to it all. Poorly designed technology can also force us to do more work because of the inefficiency that it creates. We've all been there, entering information into system A only to learn that because system A and B don't talk to each other, we have to enter it all twice.

By doing more, we may end up achieving less and feeling worse. As time becomes more pressured, stress, exhaustion and burnout all increase, resulting in greater absence from work.

How do we slow down and take back our time?

Reclaiming the time "saved" by technology may require a shift in the way in which we proportion time. To break free of the habit of filling time with more and more tasks, we must first accept that sometimes it is OK to do little or nothing.

In the work environment, employers and employees need to create an environment in which disconnection is the norm and not the exception. This means having realistic expectations about what can and should be achieved in a normal working day.

But developing legislation that enshrines the right to disconnect may be the only way to ensure that technology stops taking over our time. Several European countries such as France and Italy already have the right to disconnect legislation.

This specifies that employees are under no obligation to be contactable outside of their working hours, and that they have the right to refuse to take digital work home with them.

It is also possible that technology itself may hold the key to reclaiming our time. Imagine if, rather than telling you to stand up and move around (yet another task), your smart watch told you to stop working because you'd completed your contracted hours. Maybe when technology starts to tell us to do less, we will finally regain time.

(By Ruth Ogden, Liverpool John Moores University; Joanna Witowska, The Maria Grzegorzewska University and Vanda Cernohorska, Czech Academy of Sciences, The Conversation)

All you need to know about...

Light therapy

Help for Alzheimer's
Light therapy leads to significant improvements in sleep and psycho-behavioural symptoms for people with Alzheimer's disease, according to a new study.

Cognitive decline in Alzheimer's
The cognitive decline associated with Alzheimer's disease is often accompanied by sleep disturbances and psycho-behavioural symptoms including apathetic and depressive behaviour, agitation and aggression.

Sleep modulator
The study, published in the journal PLOS One, used photobiomodulation -- a non-pharmacological therapy that uses light energy to stimulate the suprachiasmic nucleus (SCN) -- a sleep modulator in the brain.
The team from Weifang Medical University in China concluded that light therapy is a promising treatment option for some symptoms of Alzheimer's disease.

Improves sleep
"Light therapy improves sleep and psycho-behavioural symptoms in patients with Alzheimer's disease and has relatively few side effects, suggesting that it may be a promising treatment option for patients with Alzheimer's disease," Qinghui Meng from the varsity said.

Positive effect
Researchers analysed 15 high-quality trials related to light therapy for Alzheimer's disease or dementia. The meta-analysis of all 15 trials found that light therapy improved sleep efficiency, increased interdaily stability (a measure of the strength of circadian rhythms), and reduced intradaily variability (a measure of how frequently someone transitions between rest and activity in the day).
In patients with Alzheimer's, it also alleviated depression and reduced patient agitation. —IANS

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CHANGE OF NAME

I, PUSHPALATHA VENKATESH resident of No. 41212, PJC, 7th Cross road, Manjunatha Nagar, Bagala kunte, Bengaluru-560073 have changed my name to PUSHPA VENKATESH, vide affidavit dated 07.12.2023 sworn before notary Renuka C, Bangalore.

I, PRAJWAL VENUGOPAL S/o Venugopal Annoji, residing at No.613, 64th Cross, 5th Block, Rajajinagar, Bangalore-560010 have changed my name to PRAJWAL UMBREY VENUGOPAL, vide affidavit dated 06.12.2023 sworn before notary B.V Nirmala, Bangalore

I, Sreenath Narayanan S/o, Narayanan Kolathingal Raman R/o Kolte Patil Raaga Appartment, Kannuru Main Road, Kannuru P O Bagalur, Bengaluru 562149 have changed my name to Shreenath Narayanan for all purposes

I, Brijesh Babu Shakya S/o, Ramavtar Shakya R/o No 303 Lakshmi Nivasam Building Swarna Meenakshi Layout Belathur Kadugodi Whitefield Bengaluru 560067 have changed my name to Brijesh Shakya for all purposes.

I, Prashant Malodakar, S/o. Krishnaji Narayan Maladakar, R/o: #584, 4th Crs, Jain Temple Rd, T. Dasarahalli, Blr-57, have changed my name to PRASHANT K MALADAKAR for all purposes.

I, Rashidha W/o Aslam Pasha R/o No.1213/A, 4th Cross West , K N Extension L N Colony, Yeshwanthpura, Bangalore-560022 have changed my Name to Rashidha Bibi for all purposes

I DILEEP RAMACHANDRA S/O, Ramachandra R/o No.608,6th Floor, Phase 2, Block-1, Kengeri , Kommaghatta BDA Apartments have changed my name to DILEEP DESHPANDE.

I Sharafudeen Mohamed S/O, Mohammed Also Known As Mohamed R/o Flat N0-102, block. e5, provident Welworth City, marasandra, doddaballapura Road, Bengaluru Rural-561203 have changed my name to Sharafudheen Mohammed.

I, Altaf Pasha, S/o. Abdul Jaleel, R/o: #515, 10th Crs, 29th Mn, EWS L/o, BTM 2nd Stage, Blr-76, have changed my name to JALEEL ALTAF PASHA for all purposes.

I Sudheer Santhosh Singh S/O, Sudheer Singh R/o A013 Purab Manor, Seegehalli, Whitefield, Bangalore 560067 have changed my name to Santosh Singh Sudheer Rana.

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Karnataka connect

Manoj Bajpayee speaks about love for B'luru

Manoj Bajpayee is busy promoting his latest movie Joram, a survival thriller. Bajpayee was in Bengaluru on Wednesday to participate in promotional activities of the movie. Bajpayee became famous for his sterling performance in Ram Gopal Varma directorial Hindi movie Satya in which Telugu actor JD Chakravarthy shared screen space with him. In the city, Bajpayee visited a few colleges and interacted with students.

"My great grandparents are from Karnataka. Now Kannada movies are creating box-office records across the country. I have watched Kannada movies Garuda Gamana Vrishabha Vahana and Kantara. These movies encouraged me and instilled confidence in me," said Bajpayee, after having apologised to media persons for coming late to address a presser at a private hotel in the city.

Expressing his joy about the college visit, Bajpayee said, "It is truly special to be here in Bangalore, especially connecting with the vibrant youth. The energy is infectious, and I am thrilled to meet everybody. 'Joram' holds a special place in my heart, and I can't wait for everyone to experience it."

In 'Joram,' Manoj Bajpayee takes on a never-seen-before avatar, portraying a man on the run. The film's unique storyline and Bajpayee's unparalleled acting prowess have already sparked excitement among fans.

The movie is directed and written by Devashish Makhija and produced by Shariq Patel, Ashima Avasthi Chaudhuri, Anupama Bose, and Devashish Makhija. It stars Mohammed Zeeshan Ayyub.

—Y Maheswara Reddy

SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Intriguing title

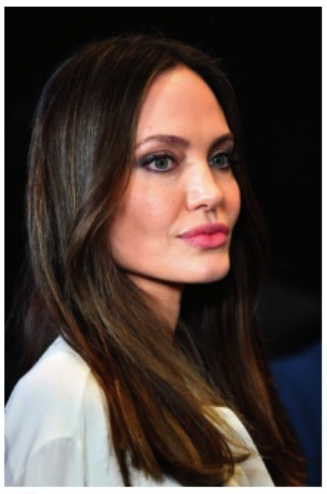
Sandalwood has its fair share of intriguing titles of films. The latest is Useless Fellow, directed by Manu, a director from Hassan. Manu also plays the lead and has written the script for the film. The trailer was released at Renukamba Preview Theater on Wednesday, by Manu's father Basavaraj.

"I selected Useless Fellow as it catchy. The movie is about how all human beings are useless at one point or another during their lifetime. I play the lead in this movie. I do not want to reveal whether I play a double role or my character has two shades. I want to keep it a secret till the movie is released," said Manu.

Manu was working with IT bellwether Wipro before making his debut as an actor in Sandalwood. Manu acted in Kannada movie Mojo that was released in 2017. "I had to quit the job to quench my thirst for acting in movies. It took six months to convince my parents, who are teachers. Finally, my parents not only allowed me to pursue my dream but also supported me to direct this movie. My parents have bankrolled this movie," said Manu.

He said he was compelled to write three lyrics as a well-known lyricist did not write deliver on time. "I faced a lot of problems during the shooting as some of the technicians failed to honour their commitments," he said.

Bonding over exes



Oscar-winning actress Halle Berry "bonded" with co-star Angelina Jolie over their "divorces and exes".

Berry will star alongside Jolie in her new film project 'Maude v Maude', and she has said that they actually spent some time together discussing their love lives.

The 57-year-old actress, who was previously married to David Justice, Eric Benet and Olivier Martinez, told Variety: "We've been talking a lot about divorces and exes. We bonded, let's say that." Despite this, Berry acknowledged that their friendship actually got off to a "rocky start".

The Hollywood actress - whose co-star has also been married three times - shared: "We had a rocky start and I think that is going to serve us well in our screen time together."

'Maude v Maude' marks Berry's first directorial project since 'Bruised', the 2020 MMA drama.

Halle has described making 'Bruised' as "hell" and she thinks it was a "miracle" that Netflix ever bought the movie, reports femalefirst.co.uk. She added: "Because I was a woman, and a black woman, the treatment I received and the things I had to put up with were unconscionable. If I were a white man or even a black man, it would have been easier. It's amazing I even made it and a miracle Netflix bought it."

—IANS

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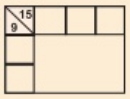
SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

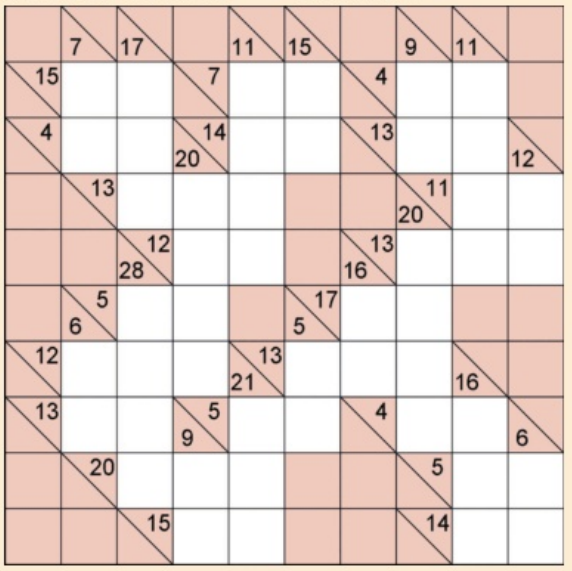
A man walked 12 km at 3 km/h and cycled 18 km at 9 km/h. What was his average speed for the whole journey?.

Kakuro

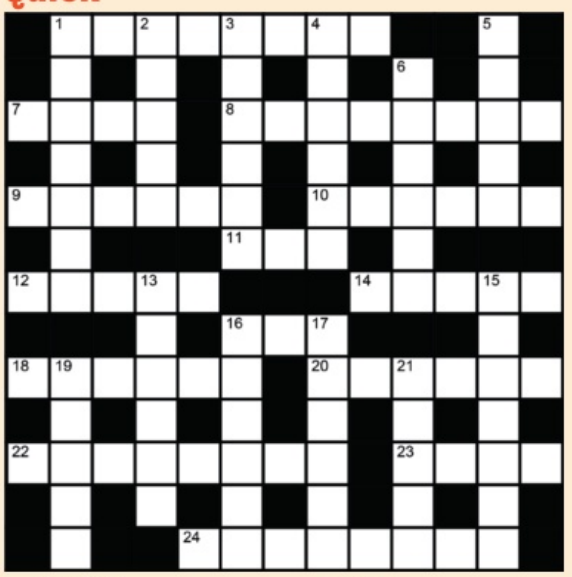
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Searches a person for concealed weapon, etc.? (4,4)
7 India's ___ capital: Bangalore for sure (4)
8 P.G Wodehouse's Lord Emsworth (8)
9 Forge (6)
10 A repeat performance (6)
11 Soapy water or soap bubble (3)
12 Mouth-like opening (5)
14 Small meal (5)
16 ___ de mer (seasickness) (3)
18 Vedic god (6)
20 Meaning or plan (6)
22 Suspension (8)
23 Negative votes (4)
24 Hugs, takes one to one's bosom (8)

DOWN

1 Act in advance of others (3-4)
2 Fortune-telling cards (5)
3 Rots and decomposes (6)
4 Used a loom (6)
5 Happen again (5)
6 Plateau in South Central India? (6)
13 Ancient Indian dynasty (6)
15 Calls off (7)
16 Large wine bottle (6)
17 One-dimensional (6)
19 Book of photographs (5)
21 Pick-me-up (5)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: M EQUALS H

XMNKN HJSS AN BU RPYXJON TY SUBC TY GTB HJSS YXTBF HJXM T IBJLN UK HJXM T CPB TBF FNYXKUQ XMUYN HMU TKN HNTINK XMTB MN JY.

Linemaro

I thought happiness started with an H. Why does mine start with U?

Mindchow

If the problem has a solution, worrying is pointless. If the problem has no solution, worrying won't solve it

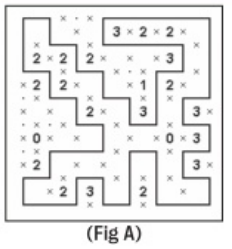
Joke of the day

For my birthday, I got a humidifier and a dehumidifier. I put them in the same room and let them fight it out

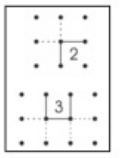
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



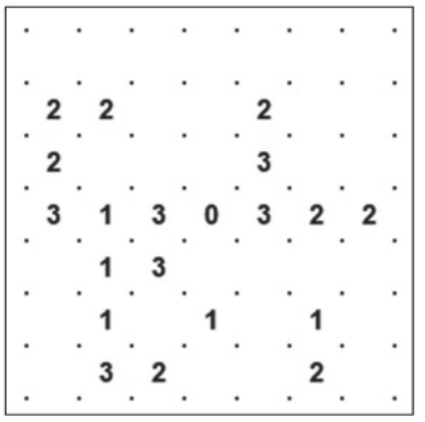
(Fig A)



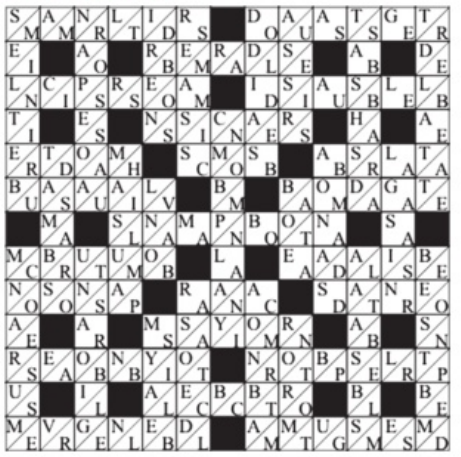
(Fig B) Not Allowed

How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...

1	2	3	4	5 Y
6				
7				
8				
9				

ACROSS

1 FPU FY; 6 Maleo; 7 Loins; 8 Drape; 9 Sauks

DOWN

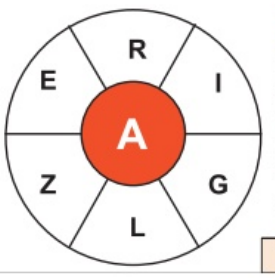
1 Lapps; 2 UK Aim; 3 Found; 4 For Al; 5 Essey

Mensapuzzle

What is the difference between the average of the numbers above and the second lowest even number?

742635819

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

19 Average; 21 Good; 23 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

6	4		3		9		1	2
		3				7		
	5			7			6	
4			2		5			6
	3						4	
7			4		3			8
	8			3			9	
		6				8		
2	9		8		7		3	1

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 13
1 3 8 9

Medium = 60
2 6 8 8

Hard = 5
2 6 8 5

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

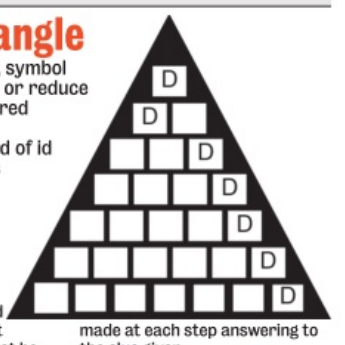
Differences: 1. Fence is higher. 2. Frame around window is missing. 3. Tree trunk is thinner. 4. Tree has fewer leaves. 5. Bush by front door is larger. 6. Window behind boy is missing.

Riddler

If Margaret gives John six of her sweets, they will have the same number of sweets each. If John gives six twists to Margaret, then he will have half the number that Margaret has. How many sweets have they got between them?

Alpha triangle

1 Hydrogen isotope, symbol
2 Prefix for remove or reduce
3 _ up: bored and tired
4 Vendetta
5 The original wizard of id
6 Trumped at cards
7 Flustered



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

Bizarrotrip

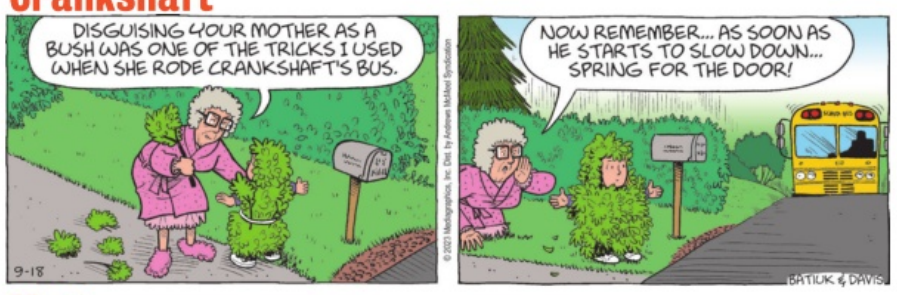
I used to collect fine art, but rare comic books sealed in Lucite garner more envy & resentment.
WEIRD ANIMAL
Wayno & Piraro 9-20-23
©2023 BIZARRO STUDIOS
Dist. by King Features
BIZARRO.COM

Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

I THINK THE VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT IS GOING TO BE A PACKED HOUSE.
BASED ON WHAT? OUR FUNDRAISER GAMES ARE NEVER WELL ATTENDED.
BASED ON THIS!
GET YOUR TICKETS AND SUPPORT TEAM BLUE NEXT WEEKEND!
HEART OF THE CITY © 2023 ANDREWS MCMEEL
@GOCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft


DISGUISING YOUR MOTHER AS A BUSH WAS ONE OF THE TRICKS I USED WHEN SHE RODE CRANKSHAFT'S BUS.
NOW REMEMBER... AS SOON AS HE STARTS TO SLOW DOWN... SPRING FOR THE DOOR!
BATIUK & DAVIS

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today your moon becomes negative. You may feel dull. It is advised that you keep your mind cool. It is a golden rule for you to think twice before acting. You may have to travel to recover your money otherwise you may lose the money. You are also advised to avoid adventurous trips today. Students are advised to focus more on their subjects.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today you are blessed by a positive moon. You may feel good and domestic harmony may make you happy. You may meet some influential person, who may help you to get some benefits on the work front. You are likely to perform well in your job. You may expect some rewards in terms of promotions. Disputes in inherited property are likely to settle down.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today you are blessed by a positive moon so you may feel healthy and may be able to focus towards your goals. Your performance may be very good at work, which may make your boss happy. You are likely to get some important responsibilities at work. You may hear good news in any legal matter. You are likely to gain control over your opponents and business rivals.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today you may be more intellectual and you may prefer gaining knowledge. You may understand the value of intellectual assets. Sometimes you may need to control your short temper, which may help you to perform your task smoothly. There may be some chances for a smooth earning, which may give you comfort in the workflow. You are advised to be careful before making new investments in assets. You are likely to spend money for love once. Love birds may enjoy their happy moments.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, your moon becomes negative and you may feel negativity around you. You may feel your responsibilities as a burden. You may be in a hurry to complete the task given to you. You may make silly mistakes. Your working efficiency may be slow, which may affect your day to day work. Your projects are likely to be delayed and it may affect your ongoing projects. You are advised to take help from your elders, before taking any important decision.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today you are blessed by the moon. You may hear good news from your sibling. You may spend time with family and friends. With the help of your creativity, you may plan to renovate your house or office. You may start new partnerships with a family member, which will be beneficial in the near future. Your subordinates at the office may help you for a project.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today the positive moon may help you. You may feel happiness and peace of mind. You may work efficiently in your professional life. Your subordinates may cooperate with you to take some important decisions in the business. You may plan to start some new venture with the help of your siblings and network, which may be beneficial in the growth of business. It is advised to take proper rest to maintain your enthusiasm.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today the moon will show mixed results. You will plan for higher studies to groom your career. Love birds find themselves to be confused in terms of feelings. More expectations may affect your emotional attachment with the spouse. You are advised to take care of your parents. Students are advised to focus themselves towards their goals.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, your moon becomes negative and you may experience detachment from responsibilities that you have been given. You also spend more in buying worthless items, which may increase negativity in the house or office. You are advised to keep an eye on your opponents and rivals; otherwise you may be a victim of conspiracy. It is advised to read documents carefully before putting your signature on them.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, you are blessed by the moon. You may enjoy your family and professional life. You may become polite with the people around you, which may help in smooth completion of your work. You may find some new sources of earnings, which may boost your savings. You may also plan to renovate your house or office.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, you are blessed by the positive moon. You may enjoy work and you may get rewards after your hard work. Your social standing may be raised now. Overworking your mind may make you tired. Due to workload, you may not be able to reach some family events. Chronic health issues related to your parents may be cured now.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today you are blessed by the positive moon. You may be satisfied with work. You may plan for a short work-related trip. You may also visit some religious places to maintain your inner peace. Your elders are likely to show you the right path, which may give you clarity in regarding your goals.

KIDZONE

Suraj H V, 11 Years, Gnana Ganga Vidyapeeta, Mysore

R Tejas, 13 Years, Indiranagar Cambridge School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
2 km at 3 km/hr = 12/3 = 4 hrs
18k.m at 9 km/hr = 2 hrs
Total distance covered =12+18 = 30km
Total time = 4+2 = 6 hrs
Average Speed =total Distance covered / total time taken = 30/6 = 5 km/hr
Therefore Average Speed = 5 km/hr

FAST FIVE

P	U	F	F	Y
A	M	O	L	E
L	I	N	O	S
P	A	D	R	E
S	K	U	A	S

QUOTE UNCODE
There will be no justice as long as man will stand with a knife or with a gun and destroy those who are weaker than he is.

STRIKE OUT

M	A	N	U	S	I	S	■	O	U	S	T	E	R	■
I	■	A	■	R	E	A	D	S	■	A	■	E	■	■
L	I	S	O	M	■	I	S	A	B	E	L	■	■	■
S	■	L	■	E	C	T	O	■	L	■	E	■	■	■
R	A	B	B	I	T	■	R	O	B	E	R	T	■	■
A	■	A	■	M	A	Y	O	R	■	B	■	S	■	■
O	S	■	R	N	A	■	S	A	N	E	■	■	■	■
C	R	U	M	B	■	A	■	A	D	L	I	B	■	■
■	A	■	L	A	M	P	O	O	N	■	A	■	■	■
U	S	U	A	L	■	M	■	B	O	D	G	E	■	■
E	T	A	H	■	S	O	S	■	B	R	A	T	■	■
I	■	S	■	N	I	C	E	R	■	A	■	A	■	■
L	I	S	O	M	■	I	S	A	B	E	L	■	■	■
S	■	L	■	E	C	T	O	■	L	■	E	■	■	■
E	V	E	N	E	D	■	A	M	U	S	E	D	■	■

QUICK

■	■	■	E	M	B	R	A	C	E	S	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	U	■	A	■	I	■	L	■	■	■	■	■
A	B	E	Y	A	N	C	E	■	N	O	E	S	■	■
■	■	L	■	R	■	G	■	N	■	O	■	C	■	■
V	A	R	U	N	A	■	I	N	T	E	N	T	■	■
■	■	■	A	■	M	A	L	■	■	■	A	■	■	■
S	T	O	M	A	■	S	N	A	C	K	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	P	■	S	U	D	■	A	■	■	■	■	■
S	M	I	T	H	Y	■	E	N	C	O	R	E	■	■
■	■	E	■	O	■	A	■	V	■	C	■	U	■	■
B	E	E	R	■	C	L	A	R	E	N	C	E	■	■
R	■	A	■	E	■	E	■	D	■	E	■	■	■	■
■	■	R	A	C	E	S	■	■	■	R	■	■	■	■

MENSA PUZZLE
1: average 45 ÷ 9 = 5;
second lowest even number = 4

BULL'S EYE
agile, earl, glale, gaze, gear, glare, glaze, lager, lair, large, laze, lazier, liar, lira, rage, rail, raze, real, regal, zeal

RIDDLER 72 sweets

SUDOKU

6	4	7	3	8	9	5	1	2
1	2	3	5	4	6	7	8	9
8	5	9	1	7	2	4	6	3
4	1	8	2	9	5	3	7	6
9	3	2	7	6	8	1	4	5
7	6	5	4	1	3	9	2	8
5	8	1	6	3	4	2	9	7
3	7	6	9	2	1	8	5	4
2	9	4	8	5	7	6	3	1

ALPHA TRIANGLE
D, DE, Fed, feud, Feud, Ruffled, Ruffled.

GO FIGURE
Easy
8 – 3 + 9 – 1 = 13
Medium
8 × 8 + 2 – 6 = 60
Hard
5 – 6 + 8 – 2 = 5

LOOP

KAKURO

Volume No 16, Issue No 119 RNI NO:KARENG/2007/21142 Published for the Proprietors, Metropolitan Media Company Ltd by R.J. Prakashan at No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011 and printed by him at Bennett Coleman & Co Ltd., The Times of India Press, No. 9/10/11-A, 4th Main, KIADB Bommasandra Industrial Area, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore - 560 099 (Phones : Press : 080-22899999; Editorial : 080-40877666, Fax – 40877545, Registered Office: No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru - 560 011, Email : mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com Editor : Ms. Seena Menon - responsible for selection of news under PRB Act. © Reproduction in whole or in part without the written permission of the Publisher is prohibited.

II Om Shri Manjunathaya Namaha II II Om Shri Chandranathaya Namaha II

Shri Kshethra Dharmasthala

Lakshadeepothsava

The Annual LAKSHADEEPOTHSAVA of Lord Shri Manjunatha Swamy will be held in Shri Kshethra Dharmasthala From 08th to 12th December 2023

91st Session of Sarvadharma and Sahithya Sammelana

STATE LEVEL EXHIBITION 08th to 12th December 2023

Venue: Shri Manjunatheshwara High School Ground, Dharmasthala

Date : 08-12-2023 Friday Time : 10.30 a.m.

Inauguration of State level Exhibition

Shri Girish Nandan M., Asst. Commissioner, Puttur

Exhibition will be open from 9-00 a.m. to 10-30 p.m. on all days - Variety of **CULTURAL PROGRAMMES** Every Evening

PROGRAMMES 9-00 p.m. onwards on all days

08-12-2023 Friday	Hosakatte Uthsava
09-12-2023 Saturday	Kerekatte Uthsava
10-12-2023 Sunday	Lalithodyana Uthsava
11-12-2023 Monday	Kanchimarukatte Uthsava
12-12-2023 Tuesday	Gowrimarukatte Uthsava
13-12-2023 Wednesday	Samavasarana Pooja of Lord Shri Chandranatha Swamy

LALITHAKALA GOSHTHI 10-12-2023, Sunday | Venue: 'Amruthavarshini' Sabhabhavana | Time: 7-00 p.m.

SARVADHARMA SAMMELANA 11-12-2023, Monday | Venue: 'Amruthavarshini' Sabhabhavana | Time: 5-00 p.m.

Inaugurator : **Dr. Gururaja Kharjagi,** Renowned Scholar, Founder of Academy for Creative Teaching, Bengaluru

President : **Shri Shri Shri Siddalinga Mahaswamigalu,** Shri Kshethra Siddaganga Math, Tumkur

Guest Speakers : **Dr M. R. Venkatesh,** Writer, Orator, Advocate, Supreme Court of India

Dr V. B. Arathi, Chief Founder, Vibhu Academy, Bengaluru. An expert in Indology

Sri Mohammad Gouse Ra Havaldar, Orator, Basava Shanti Awardee, Vijayapura

Cultural Programmes : at 8-30 p.m. - **Nritya Samarpanam** - Smt. Anuradha Vikrant and Drushti Nrityamela, Bengaluru

SAHITHYA SAMMELANA 12-12-2023, Tuesday | Venue: 'Amruthavarshini' Sabhabhavana | Time: 5-00 p.m.

Inaugurator : **Dr. S. Somanath,** Chairman, ISRO, Bengaluru

President : **Dr. A. V. Prasanna,** Great Scholar and Renowned Gamaki, Bengaluru

Guest Speakers : **Dr. Shripada Shetty,** Retired Professor and Writer, Honnavara

Sri Prakash Belavadi, Theatre Artist, Bengaluru

Dr. Ajakkala Girisha Bhat, Writer and Professor, Bantwal

Cultural Programmes : at 8-30 p.m. - **Shivarpanam and Harivilasa**

Guru Vidushi Archana Punyesh and Students, Jathin Nrutya Academy, Bengaluru

ALL ARE CORDIALLY INVITED

Dr. D. Veerendra Heggade

President, Reception Committee, Sarvadharma & Sahithya Sammelanas, Dharmasthala - 574 216, D.K.

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manjushri printers Ujire